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WASTE-BASKET OF WORDS.

PERNICKETY (Vol. iv. p. 70). — This word, given in the Waste-Basket as from New England, I believe to be of Scotch origin. Some Scotch friends of mine, never in this country, were the first and only persons from whom I have heard it. They used it for anything very angular and straight; for instance, a particularly stiff, angular house. — *Mary Chapman.*

SKEEZICKS (Vol. iii. p. 311). — In my boyhood, in western New York, the word was applied to persons, usually children, who had been in mischief, and where the prank had caused sorrow to person or damage to property. I do not remember the use of the word as stated in the Journal. — *E. E. White, St. Johns, Mich.*

STRETCHING. — In Baltimore, a candidate for the position of house servant inquired of the lady if she did her own "stretching," meaning if he should be required to *wait* on the table.

DRAW. — In Tennessee, at a stated time in the year, the school-teachers assemble for "*the draw*," the receiving of their salary, which is graduated to the number of scholars the teacher has. Quite like this, the Wesleyan ministers in the Bahamas receive a certain amount, in addition to the regular salary, for *each child they have*. — *Charles Edwards.*

FOLK-LORE SCRAP-BOOK.

ALPHABET OF THE BUREAU OF ETHNOLOGY. — The following is the alphabet used by the Bureau of Ethnology, as contained in the second edition of the "Introduction to the Study of Indian Languages," by Major J. W. Powell, Director: —

- a*, as in *far, father*; Gm. *haben*; Sp. *ramo*.
- ă*, nearly as in *what, not*; Gm. *man*; as *oi* in Fr. *loi*.
- ä*, as in *hat, man*.
- â*, as in *law, all, lord*; Fr. *or*.
- ai*, as in *aisle*, as *i* in *pine, find*; Gm. *Hain*.
- âi*, as *oi* in *boil, soil*; Sp. *oyendo, coyote*.
- au*, as *ou* in *out*, as *ow* in *how*; Gm. *Haus*; Sp. *auto*.
- b*, as in *blab*; Gm. *beben*; Fr. *belle*; Sp. *bajar*.
- c*, as *sh* in *shall*; Gm. *schellen*; Fr. *charmer*.
- ç*, as *th* in *thin, forth*.
- ç*, as *th* in *then, though*.
- d*, as in *dread*; Gm. *das*; Fr. *de*; Sp. *dedo*.
- e*, as in *they*; Gm. *Dehnung*; Fr. *dé*; Sp. *qué*.
- ĕ*, as in *then*; Gm. *denn*; Fr. *sienne*; Sp. *comen*.
- f*, as in *fife*; Gm. *Feuer*; Fr. *feu*; Sp. *fumar*.
- g*, as in *gig*; Gm. *geben*; Fr. *goût*; Sp. *gozar*.
- h*, as in *ha, he*; Gm. *haben*.

- i*, as in *pique*; Gm. *ihn*; Fr. *île*; Sp. *hijo*.
ï, as in *pick*; Gm. *will*.
j, as *z* in *azure*; *j*, in Fr. *Jacques*; Portuguese *João*.
k, as in *kick*; Gm. *Kind*; Fr. *quart*; Sp. *querir*.
l, as in *lull*; Gm. *lallen*; Fr. *lourd*; Sp. *lento*.
m, as in *mum*; Gm. *Mutter*; Fr. *me*; Sp. *menos*.
n, as in *nun*; Gm. *Nonne*; Fr. *ne*; Sp. *nada*.
ñ, as *ng* in *sing*, *singer*; Sp. *luengo*.
o, as in *note*; Gm. *Bogen*; Fr. *nos*.
ô, nearly as in (N. E.) *home*; Gm. *soll*; Fr. *sotte*; It. *sotto*; Sp. *sol*.
p, as in *pipe*; Gm. *Puppe*; Fr. *poupe*; Sp. *popa*.
q, as *ch* in Gm. *ich*, or *ch* in *ach*, if the former is not found.
r, as in *roaring*; Gm. *rühren*; Fr. *rare*; Sp. *razgar*.
s, as in *sauce*; Gm. *Sack*; Fr. *sauce*; Sp. *sordo*.
t, as in *touch*; Gm. *Tag*; Fr. *tâter*; Sp. *tomar*.
u, as in *rule*; Gm. *du*; Fr. *doux*; Sp. *uno*.
û, as in *pull*, *full*; Gm. *und*.
ü, as in Gm. *kühl*; Fr. *tu*.
û, as in *but*; Fr. *pleuvoir*.
v, as in *valve*; Fr. *veux*; Sp. *volver*; and as *w* in Gm. *wenn*.
w, as in *wish*; nearly as *ou* in Fr. *oui*.
x, nearly as the Arabic *ghain* (the sonant of *q*).
y, as in *you*; Sp. *ya*; as *j* in Gm. *ja*.
z, as *z* and *s* in *zones*; Gm. *Hase*; Fr. *zèle*; Sp. *roza*.
dj, as *j* in *judge*.
hw, as *wh* in *when*; Sp. *huerta*.
hy, as in *hue*.
ly, as *lli* in *million*; as *ll* in Fr. *brilliant*; Sp. *llano*; and as *gl* in It. *molliè*.
ng, as in *finger*, *linger*.
ny, as *ni* in *onion*; as *ñ* in *cañon*; Fr. *agneau*; Sp. *maraña*.
tc, as *ch* in *church*, and *c* in It. *cielo*; Sp. *achaque*.

Excessive prolongation of a vowel should be marked thus: *a*+, *â*+,
ü+

Nasalized vowels should be written with a superior *n*, thus: *eⁿ*, *øⁿ*, *uⁿ*, *aⁿ*, *aiⁿ*.

An aspirated sound should be marked by an inverted comma, thus : *b'*, *d'*.

An exploded sound or hiatus should be marked by an apostrophe, thus : *θ', a'*.

Synthetic sounds should be written with the letter which represents the sound which seems to be most commonly emitted.

The following letters, inverted, can be used for sounds not provided for in the above alphabet : —

a, ā, ä, å, â, ç, é, ê, ĝ, ĥ, ĭ, ĵ, k, l, m, ò, ô, ö, r, t, v, w, y.
v, v̄, v̂, ṽ, v̇, ʒ, z, ž, š, ſ, ŷ, ı, u, ů, ű, ɹ, ʎ, ɺ, ɽ, ɾ, ɿ, ʞ.

The letters to be inverted in print should be written upright in the manuscript and marked thus : *d, h, l.*

x x x

Syllables should be separated by hyphens. In connected texts hyphens should be omitted.

The accented syllable of every word should be marked by an acute accent, thus : *tcu-ar'-u-âm-pu-rân-kûnt.*

CALLING ON THE DEVIL TO CURE DISEASE. — From a New York newspaper, of April, 1892 (the correspondent who sends the clipping does not give the name and date of the journal), we take the following paragraph : —

“Joseph Libertino, an Italian, of No. 153 Baxter Street, was arraigned before Justice Smith in the Court of Special Sessions yesterday, charged with violation of the medical law. The charge was made by Pasaquale Siessone, an Italian of No. 310 West Sixty-ninth Street. On February 13th Siessone became ill with pneumonia. On the advice of a friend, he sent for Libertino and his brother Vincenzo. They said he needed an overhauling, and they overhauled him. They first stripped him and blew in his face. Then they cut him about his legs and toes with razors. When the blood began to flow freely, they wet their hands in it and began rubbing it over his body. Then they took a lock of his hair, put it in an envelope, which they addressed to the Prince of Hades, and then put it in the fire, at the same time invoking the Prince to help the sick man to get well. This was repeated four times. They wanted \$120 to take the case, and should he recover he was to pay \$380. He paid \$20 as a guaranty of good faith. Justice Smith fined him \$150. In General Sessions yesterday Judge Cowing fined Vincenzo \$100. The fellow declared that he possessed supernatural powers, but W. A. Purrington, counsel for the County Medical Society, said he was an arrant fraud.”

MARRIAGE SUPERSTITIONS IN SCOTLAND. — From one of a series of articles on Scottish Superstitions, by Edgar L. Wakeman, printed in the “Boston Transcript,” July 25, 1891, we extract the following passage : —

“In the matter of courtships and weddings, Scottish people preserve an extraordinary number of peculiar customs and fanciful superstitions. It is deemed unlucky to alter the first width of an engagement ring. Many troths have been broken as a result. The giving of brooches and pins by lovers is full of ill consequences. No young man or woman, in the tender relation, will take a pin from the other without returning the same after use. Pins, needles, etc., are all emblematic of the cessation of friendship and affection. It is very fortunate for the bride to wear some borrowed article of apparel at her wedding. If swine cross the path of the bridal party before it, it is an omen of the direst import ; but if they should cross its path behind the party, it would be a happy augury. A wedding after sunset entails on the bride a joyless life, the loss of children, and an early grave. In the south of Scotland a rainy day for a marriage is an unlucky one. The bride is then called “a greetin’ bride ;” whereas, “Blest is the bride that the sun shines on.” To “rub shoulders” with the bride is a